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Dr. (Mrs.) S. MUTHULAKSHMI REDDI :—"May I know whether a woman doctor attends upon these women patients as it is done in other countries?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—"A special department for the treatment of venereal diseases has been started."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—"May I know from the hon. Minister whether he would consider the desirability of having a lady doctor in charge of women patients?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—"That is one of the important things which we will consider."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—"May I know whether the hon. Minister is prepared to verify the statement by the appointment of a committee of one or two men to enquire into the affairs of the General Hospital instead of taking the statement of the officers of the General Hospital as true?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—"If the hon. Member takes the responsibility of putting it in writing, I will appoint a committee."

Drinking water well in the Sanda, hamlet of Chikkalakshmipuram, Harpanahalli taluk.

*250 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR : Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is any drinking water well in the Sanda, hamlet of Chikkalakshmipuram included in the main village of Hire Myagalagiri, Harpanahalli taluk, Bellary district; and

(b) if not, what distance the people of the hamlet have now to go to fetch their drinking water?

A.—The Government have no information.

Mr. R. NAGAN GOWDA :—"May I know whether the information has been called for?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—"I do not think it necessary to call for the information."

Prevalence of malaria in South Kanara, Malabar, etc.

*251 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA : With reference to my question No. 1765, answered on 16th March 1929, will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether Government have received a report of the Special Malaria Officer as to the prevalence of malaria in South Kanara, Malabar, the Nilgiris, Coimbatore and Salem districts;

(b) if so, to what causes he attributes the spread of malaria;

(c) whether he attributes it partly or wholly to the growth of forests;

(d) what remedies he proposes for checking the spread; and

(e) what action Government have taken on the report?

A.—(a) The Government received reports of malarial surveys by the Special Malaria Officer of the following places in the districts of the Nilgiris, Malabar, South Kanara and Coimbatore:—

The Nilgiris ... Ootacamund and Coonoor municipalities.

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Malabar ...	...	Seethangundy estate, Kollengode (Palghat taluk).
South Kanara	...	Puttur taluk.
Coimbatore	...	Anayarkundi, Bolampatti reserve in connexion with the headworks of the Coimbatore water-supply scheme.

No malaria investigation has so far been made by the Special Malaria Officer in any part of the district of Salem.

(*b*) & (*c*) The Special Malaria Officer attributes the prevalence of malaria in the above places generally to their swampy and marshy condition and the stagnation of the numerous hill streams and channels due to the growth of weeds and grass along their courses.

(*d*) The remedies suggested to combat malaria in these places besides other minor recommendations appropriate to the areas are to drain the swamps and marshy areas and to let the hill streams and channels flow free by removing all grass and weeds.

(*e*) The reports have been communicated to the authorities concerned for necessary action.

Acquisition of the property of the Basel Mission for the Government Headquarters Hospital, Calicut.

* 252 *Q.*— Mr. J. A. SALDANHA : With reference to my question No. 1816 answered on 22nd March 1929, will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state what decision the Government have arrived at regarding the proposed acquisition of the property of the Basel Mission for the Government Headquarters Hospital at Calicut?

A.—Acquisition of the Mission property has been given up.

Lepers in the Sirva village in South Kanara.

* 253 *Q.*—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA : Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state whether there is an abnormal number of lepers in the Sirva village in South Kanara?

A.—The Government have no information and do not consider it necessary to institute an enquiry.

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" May I enquire why the Government do not consider it necessary to call for the information ? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" Because there are many villages, and it would involve a good deal of labour and time which is not warranted in the public interest."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" May I point out that I have asked for information for only one village, and that there is only one village which contains a large number of lepers? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" Probably the hon. Member is aware of that information and it is therefore not necessary to call for that again."